

To: The Connecticut Human Services Committee

From: Cecily Routman, President and Founder of the Jewish Pro-Life Foundation representing our friends in Connecticut

Re: HB 06618 Medical Assistance for Certain Persons Receiving Abortion Care and Related Services in Connecticut

Position: Opposed

Dear Chairman and Committee Members,

In Judaism, every human life, born and unborn, has infinite value. The life of an unborn human being cannot be terminated except in rare extenuating circumstances when there is no other option to save the life of the mother.

Life saving modern medical treatments and abundant help during pregnancy and after birth are available to women and families today. It is no longer medically necessary to violently destroy a preterm baby to save a mother's life. In these rare situations, babies can be treated with care, either gently removed from the uterus and saved by intensive care or given a dignified burial.

The way of the Torah is justice inseparably bound with mercy, charity, faithfulness and kindness. The way of the pro-abortion movement is injustice and cruelty to the defenseless child, and to the mothers who suffer physical, emotional and spiritual harm.

Tax payer funding of abortion to Medicaid recipients violates 1) Jewish religion, 2) Jewish law, and 3) Jewish business ethics.

1) According to the Jewish religion, the law of Noah pertaining to the value of human life applies to all people, Jew and non-Jew, and appears early in the Jewish bible.

"He who spills the blood of man within man shall have his blood spilled, for in the image of G-d, He made man. And you, be fruitful, and multiply; and increase upon the earth, and multiply therein." Genesis 9:6-7

The Torah sages explain "the blood of man within man" refers to a growing unborn child in the womb of the mother. (Talmud Sanhedrin 57b). The severity of abortion in Torah is underscored by consequences for the abortionist ranging from death at the hands of Heaven to the death penalty in a court of law.

The Connecticut government's authority to levy taxes cannot be utilized in harmony with Noahide Law to fund abortion, except when the mother's life is in immediate peril. Such a result would, according to Jewish law, lend financial assistance to an act which both Jew and non-Jew are prohibited from engaging in under the injunction of the universal Noahide commands.

2) According to Jewish law, Judaism prohibits the shedding of innocent blood and human child sacrifice, the modern day version of which is abortion. Jewish law requires we stand against public funds being used to fund destroying innocent human beings in the womb, as such practice violates Jewish law against assisting in abortion and to avoid causing pain and death to the powerless.

“And thou shalt not give any of your offspring to pass through for Molech,” Leviticus 18:21.

“Do what is right and just; rescue the wronged from their oppressors; do nothing wrong or violent to the stranger, orphan or widow; don’t shed innocent blood in this place. Jeremiah 22:3

3) According to Jewish business ethics, abortion industry practices dramatically contrast with Jewish ethics and moral guidelines in business, cleanliness, sexual propriety, responsibility to protect friends and neighbors from harm, honesty, and women’s safety.

“Keep away from fraud, and do not cause the death of the innocent and righteous; for I will not justify the wicked.” Exodus 23:7

Abortion providers regularly engage in illegal and unethical practices. Abortion providers perpetuate sex crimes by routinely failing to report evidence of sexual assault and sex trafficking. They fail to provide informed consent to patients, and fail to counsel patients on alternatives to the abortion procedure or possible immediate and long term negative consequences of the procedure. The illegal sale of body parts and the extreme violation of basic moral standards regarding dismemberment of born alive babies is antithetical to Jewish law and the treatment of human beings.

We appeal to the Committee members to heed our defense of vulnerable women and children, and deny Medicaid funding of abortion in Connecticut.

Respectfully,

Cecily Routman, President and Founder of the Jewish Pro-Life Foundation

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